DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 286 643 PS 016 851

AUTHOR Deusen-Henkel, Jenifer Van
TITLE Programs That Work: Early Childhood Education Plan Continuing Programs.
INSTITUTION Maine State Dept. of Educational and Cultural Services, Augusta.
PUB DATE Sep 85
NOTE 18p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Early Childhood Education; Incentive Grants; *Kindergarten; *Primary Education; Program Descriptions; *Program Effectiveness; State Programs
IDENTIFIERS *Maine

ABSTRACT

Briefly described are 15 projects originally funded by the State of Maine as early childhood education plans, subsequently evaluated as successful and instituted by local units as part of a regular school program. After each program description, the names, telephone numbers, and addresses of contact persons are provided. (RH)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

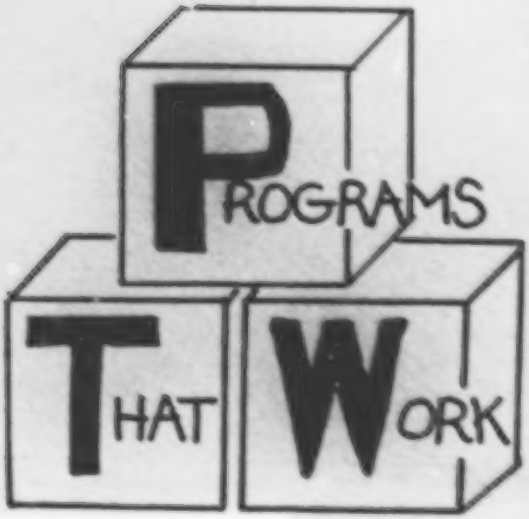
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

X This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

ED286643



"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Jenifer Van Deusen - Henkel

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PLAN
CONTINUING PROGRAMS

State of Maine
Department of Educational & Cultural Services
State House Station #23
Augusta, Maine 04333

PS 016851

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

INTRODUCTION

The programs described in this booklet were awarded initial funding by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services through the Early Childhood Education Plan grant program. This is a competitive grant program established by the 111th Legislature. Its purpose is to stimulate increased excellence in instruction and curriculum for all children in Kindergarten through third grades.

"PROGRAMS THAT WORK" describes in brief, the fifteen projects that were originally funded as Early Childhood Education plans. They were evaluated as successful and will be continued by the local unit as part of that school's regular program. It is hoped that this booklet will be a resource for others seeking ways to improve their own curriculum and/or instruction in grades K-3.

For further information contact:

Jenifer Van Deusen-Henkel
Coordinator
Early Childhood Education Plan Grant Program
Department of Educational and Cultural Services
State House Station #23
Augusta, Maine 04333-0023
(207) 289-5981

Many thanks to Wendy Smith for typing.

September, 1985

Printed Under Appropriation #1230.7272

ALTON

"NEW KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM"

This project established a kindergarten where none had previously existed. The grant was awarded in 1984, prior to the mandate for kindergartens with the accompanying funding for start-up costs. Imaginative use of very limited space is a special feature of this program.

SITE: Alton Grammar School

CONTACT: Ralph Turner, Sr.
Principal
Alton Grammar School
Union #90
25 Veazie Street
Old Town, Maine 04468

TELEPHONE: 394-2331

ASHLAND

"ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION SKILLS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT"

During the first year, this project provided formal training for all K-3 teachers in oral and written skill development. The training concentrated on the whole language approach to reading, writing and language development, and was based on the work of Donald Graves at UNH. The second year of the project focused on implementing these ideas in the classroom. In the future, this project will concentrate on continuing to work with the writing process, with special emphasis on writing and producing plays.

SITE: Ashland Central School

CONTACT: Sheila Lyons
Teacher
Ashland Central School
SAD #32
Box Q, Oak Street
Ashland, Maine 04732

TELEPHONE: 435-3511

AUBURN

"BELIEF; STAFF DEVELOPMENT, PRACTICE:
A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR IMPROVING EARLY
CHILDHOOD EDUCATION"

In the two years of its operation, this project provided for the development of a system-wide philosophy of early childhood education. The needs for planning, training and involvement of staff were recognized by the project. The process of evaluating philosophical bases and learning/teaching theories in the light of new information required intensive and frequent interaction of the more than sixty persons involved.

SITE: Auburn School Department

CONTACT: Richard E. Babb
Deputy Superintendent
Auburn School Department
Box 800
Auburn, Maine 04210

TELEPHONE: 784-6431

BIDDEFORD

"S.O.S.: SUCCESS ORIENTED SCHOOLING"

"Project S.O.S." is the first part of a two-year kindergarten program for those children who do not demonstrate the readiness skills necessary for the regular kindergarten. The project is based on an educational philosophy that all children do not develop at the same rate. "Project S.O.S." emphasizes matching learning activities to the child's abilities and styles in order to maximize opportunities to experience success. The curriculum focuses on oral language and movement activities, and the development of concepts through concrete activities.

SITE: Biddeford High School

CONTACT: Sarah-Jane Poli, Curriculum Director
or Robert Hodge, Principal
Biddeford School Department
Maplewood Avenue
Biddeford, Maine 04005

TELEPHONE: 284-5996

FRYEBURG

"DEVELOPMENTAL KINDERGARTEN:
THE RIGHT START"

"The Right Start" established a developmentally-oriented "Early Kindergarten" for those normal children who have yet to reach the level of developmental readiness necessary for the regular kindergarten program. Teachers were trained in the administration and interpretation of the Gesell Readiness Exam, and in the use of the Early Prevention of School Failure program. The "Early Kindergarten" curriculum emphasizes language development, concrete experiences, and motor activities.

SITE: Charles A. Snow School

CONTACT: Jeanette Almy
Director of Special Services
SAD #72
7 Portland Street
Fryeburg, Maine 04037

TELEPHONE: 935-3888

GRAY

"PROJECT EARLY PRIMARY"

"Project Early Primary" was implemented in New Gloucester for the purpose of attaining appropriate class sizes for kindergarten through second grade. The problems of overcrowding were addressed by establishing, equipping and staffing new class sections. In order to improve the effectiveness of the primary programs, the project also addressed policy concerns (such as promotion/retention) and initiated the establishment of a coordinated K-2 curriculum.

A special feature of this project is the Kindergarten Center established in New Gloucester, which accommodates all the kindergarten programs in the district.

SITE: Memorial School

CONTACT: Larry Koch
Assistant Superintendent
SAD #15
Box 178
Gray, Maine 04039

TELEPHONE: 657-3335

KINGFIELD

"IMPROVING PLANNING AND TEACHING SKILLS"

This project provided training in lesson planning and effective teaching for all first, second and third grade teachers in SAD #58. The specific areas of training included: lesson planning, diagnostic ability, task analysis, effective management and teaching strategies, grouping schedules, and parent-teacher communication. The training was done during summer institutes and inservice workshops. The primary consultant for the project was Elaine Roberts of the Maine Facilitator Center.

SITE: Kingfield, Stratton, Phillips and Strong Schools

CONTACT: Robert Webster
Assistant Superintendent
SAD #58
RFD #1, Box 1580
Kingfield, Maine 04947

TELEPHONE: 684-3521

MEDWAY

"BUILDING SUCCESS THROUGH ART AND INVOLVEMENT"

This pre-school through third grade program is designed to incorporate art into the curriculum of the Medway Elementary School. Its purpose is twofold: 1) to improve the student's self-image through successful experiences; and, 2) to provide cultural and educational art activities related to the regular curriculum.

In addition, the pre-school component of the program (called the "FUNday School") focuses on improving the readiness skills of incoming kindergarteners during a series of Saturday workshops. These sessions emphasize arts and crafts, yet also include language development and physical education activities.

SITE: Medway Elementary School

CONTACT: Roger A. Wallace
Principal
Medway Elementary School
Schoolhouse Road
Medway, Maine 04460

TELEPHONE: 746-3470

NOBLEBORO

"DEVELOPMENTAL PLACEMENT AND PROGRAMMING"

The intent of this project is to reduce the school failure that may result from placing a child in a class for which s/he is not developmentally ready. Primary teachers throughout Union #74 and the Great Salt Bay CSD were trained in developmental screening and teaching techniques. Careful placement in developmentally-appropriate learning environments is expected to provide successful experiences for students, particularly those at risk for failure.

SITE: Union #74 and Great Salt Bay CSD

CONTACT: Sheryl MacDonald
Teacher
South Bristol School
South Bristol, Maine 04568

TELEPHONE: 644-8177

ORONO

"HANDS ON WHILE LEARNING"

"Hands On While Learning" provides primary students with a wide variety of concrete materials to foster conceptual development. Over the past two years, kindergarten through third grade teachers have designed or adapted materials to enhance their curricula. Parent volunteers then construct the materials for use in the classrooms. All materials are catalogued and evaluated to facilitate their exchange among the teachers.

SITE: Asa C. Adams School

CONTACT: Madeline Clement
Curriculum Director
Union #87
Asa C. Adams School
Goodridge Drive
Orono, Maine 04473

TELEPHONE: 866-2151

PORTLAND

"EARLY KINDERGARTEN"

Portland's "Early Kindergarten" program was established to meet the needs of those children identified as developmentally young. All incoming kindergarteners are screened using the Gesell Readiness Exam, and placement in the "Early K" is offered to those showing a developmental age below five. The program was designed to provide experiences that would enable the children to increase their language skills, grow in independence, and learn to better cope with their world. A learning-center approach to curriculum is enhanced by teacher-developed units based on children's literature.

SITE: Twenty Portland Schools

CONTACT: David N. LeGage
Assistant Superintendent
Portland Public Schools
331 Veranda Street
Portland, Maine 04103

TELEPHONE: 775-0900, ext. 206

SACO

"EARLY CHILDHOOD READINESS PROGRAM"

This program was designed to be implemented in two phases. The first year emphasized the improvement and expansion of Saco's screening program. The goal of this phase was to train teachers to better identify and place the developmentally-young child. The focus for the second year was on the creation of a pre-kindergarten program to provide for those children determined to be unready for the regular kindergarten. This pre-K program is activity-oriented and concentrates on the development of language skills. Teacher training concerning child development and screening was ongoing during both phases of the project.

SITE: Young School

CONTACT: Lawrence Spencer
Director of Special Services or
Franklin Thompson, Principal
Young School
Union #7
Tasker Street
Saco, Maine 04072

TELEPHONE: 284-4505

SOUTH PORTLAND

"THINKING GOES PRIMARY"

"Thinking Goes Primary" is a three-year experimental project which is testing the effects of teacher training upon students. Specifically, this project is designed to determine if training kindergarten through second grade teachers to be knowledgeable about the processes of cognitive development will improve the reasoning and problem-solving skills of the students in their classes. Teachers who volunteered to participate in the study have completed a graduate-level course on developmental principles and their application to curriculum planning. At the end of the project, students in the trained teachers' classes will be compared to the student whose teachers have not received the specialized training.

SITE: All schools in South Portland

CONTACT: Beth Bellemere
Director of Elementary Education
South Portland School Department
130 Wescott Road
South Portland, Maine 04106

TELEPHONE: 775-6901

THOMASTON

"OBTAINING APPROPRIATE CLASS SIZE"

The intent of this project was to lower an unacceptabl, high teacher-student ratio in order to provide more quality instruction. Primary classes in the targeted schools have been reduced from thirty students to approximately fifteen. This was done by hiring the personnel necessary to staff extra class sections and equipping the classrooms to accommodate them.

SITES: Lura Libby School
St. George School
Cushing School

CONTACT: Paul Luttrell
Superintendent of Schools
SAD #50
Box 182
Thomaston, Maine 04861

TELEPHONE: 354-2555

WINDHAM

"C.E.E.D.: COGNITION AND EXPLORATION FOR EARLY DEVELOPMENT"

The "C.E.E.D." project focused on the initiation of a two-year developmentally-oriented kindergarten program for students with identified needs, and the design of a pre-K through third grade curriculum consistent with developmental strategies. The children identified for the "First Step" (pre-K) program are involved in a developmentally and cognitive skills program based on the Early Prevention of School Failure and High/Scope models. Home learning is an integral part of this program, and is carefully planned to maximize the development of each child's basic learning skills.

SITE: Aikins Kindergarten Center

CONTACT: Susan Gendron
Principal
Aikins Kindergarten Center
RFD #1
South Windham, Maine 04082

TELEPHONE: 892-6565